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- Jeff Brown



April 6, 2014

### [Man drowns after saving boy](#)

By Melissa Klaric [Herald Staff Writer](#)

FARRELL — A Farrell man on vacation in Cancun, Mexico, drowned Wednesday after saving a young boy from dangerous waters.

Jeff Brown, 50, braved the strong current to get to the boy he heard yelling while he walked along the beach.

Brown helped the boy safely onto a life buoy, but he succumbed to the bad undertow by the time the rescue team came back for him, witnesses said.

Brown was in Cancun with his girlfriend, Tracy Duez, and six other couples.

“He truly was an amazing person,” said Wendy Donner, Duez’s sister. “It’s a very sad loss for everyone.”

Donner said Brown and Duez had just finished a meal around noon and parted ways with Brown opting for a stroll on the beach.

She said Brown saved the boy even though a red-flag warned of the bad undertow.

“He was the most caring, wonderful person. A good friend to everybody who knew him,” Donner said. “He liked the simple things. He loved hanging out with friends.”

Brown loved to hang out and watch sports at the Farrel Sportsman Club on Emerson Avenue, Farrell. Donner said he spent much of last weekend there watching “March Madness” basketball.

“He was a happy-go-lucky guy. He’d do anything for anyone,” Gary Steiner, president of the club, said. “We’re all devastated for what happened.”

Donner said funeral services for Brown are being made for Thursday or Friday in J. Bradley McGonigle Funeral Home and Crematory Inc., Sharon.

Obituary information was unavailable Saturday.

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